

**Contra Costa County**  
**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS COMMISSION**

**Draft Minutes**  
April 27, 2017

**Members and Alternates Present:** Matt Buell, Don Bristol, Fred Glueck, Frank Gordon, Ralph Sattler, Leslie Stewart, George Smith, Jack Bean (alternate)

**Absent:** Rick Alcaraz, Lara DeLaney, Jim Payne, Steve Linsley, Mark Ross, Usha Vedagiri

**Staff:** Randy Sawyer, Hazmat

**Members of the Public:** None

**1. Call to Order:** Commissioner Gordon called the meeting to order at 4:15.

**Announcements and Introductions:**

Michael Kent announced:

- Meeting with Supervisor Burgis has been rescheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10 AM at 651 Pine Street, Martinez.
- The Board of Supervisors will receive a presentation on the Adapting to Rising Tides study by the Bay Conservation and Development Commission on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- The DEA is sponsoring a one-day collection event for unused pharmaceuticals at various police stations throughout the County on April 29<sup>th</sup>.
- The cybersecurity workshop is scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup> 8:00 – 12 at the Shell Clubhouse in Martinez. The flyer is ready for distribution.

Commissioner Smith announced that on May 18<sup>th</sup> the Industrial Association will be hosting a panel of Mayors from 5 cities to talk about job creation. It will be from 11:00 – 1:30 at Zeo Fraedo's in Pleasant Hill.

Commissioner Buell announced:

- The official ceremony recommissioning Tesoro's Avon wharf with earthquake protection was last week. Also, a ruling in a lawsuit against their EIR went in their favor today.
- WSPA held a luncheon yesterday and Supervisors Gioia and Mitchoff talked about the Air Districts Toxics rule 11-18. An adoption date has been pushed back. CARB wrote a letter of support for the proposed rule 12-16 about emission caps. They also discussed rule 13-1 which is a cap on GHG emissions.
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**2. Approval of the Minutes:**

The minutes of the March 23, 2017 meeting were moved by Commissioner Glueck, seconded by Commissioner Bristol, and passed 6-0-1 with Commissioner Smith abstaining.

**3. Public Comments:** None

**4. Hazardous Materials Programs Report:**

Randy Sawyer, Hazardous Materials Program Director, reported:

- They have been doing a lot of training for other CalARP programs on Process Safety Management, and have been working with CalOHSAs on Root Cause Analysis this month and will be doing Inherently Safer Systems training in June. Next week the staff is putting on training for other CalARP programs on Program 4 facilities, which puts the ISO requirements in CalARP and PSM.
- The ISO ad-hoc meeting has been rescheduled for the end of June. They will consider 3<sup>rd</sup> party safety evaluation and oversight.
- The City of Richmond ISO requires a full time CalARP Engineer at Chevron. This will start in June. The first CalARP Engineer to assume this role will be Mike Dossey.
- New marijuana regulations will impact the Hazardous Materials Program somewhat. The Board of Supervisors will probably allow all aspects of its growing, manufacturing and sale in the County. Thus Hazmat will have to regulate some new businesses for hazardous materials management and potentially hazardous waste generation.

**5. Operations Committee Report:**

- The Operations committee reviewed the pipeline emergency preparedness brochure being done as a recommendation of the Pipeline Safety Trust report. A final brochure should be done soon. They also discussed school siting guidelines for hazardous materials, and are collection information to be able to evaluate the adequacy of those regulations.

**6. Planning and Policy Development Committee Report:**

The committee reviewed the presentation on asbestos that was given at the last Commission meeting and developed a recommendation for the Commission to consider.

**7. Old Business:** None

**8. New Business:**

**a) Discuss New Chlorine Dispersion Modeling research**

Randy Sawyer, Hazardous Materials Program Director, gave a brief overview of the issue. He said that after a couple of railcar accidents in Georgia and Texas, it was noted that chlorine didn't disperse as far as was predicted by standard modeling techniques. A

hypothesis was developed that assumed that much of the chlorine may have absorbed onto soil and plants. In lab tests, the more the organics in the soil, the more chlorine was absorbed. So the Department of Homeland Security, in coordination with private industry, did some field experiments to test this theory. Their concerns were for both terrorist releases and accidental releases.

They did a series of test they dubbed, “Jackrabbit” tests. They first did 10 releases of chlorine and ammonia. One and two ton batches of chlorine were released from a valve in a tank that was set in a large depression in the ground. They did these tests in different types of soils. In the second phase of the test they looked at the impacts of chlorine releases on sheltering-in-place in homes and in vehicles with 5 and 10 ton releases in mock urban areas. The chlorine stayed low to the ground and didn’t impact higher elevations. It also didn’t go as far as existing models said it would.

The last round of testing was done last fall with 20 ton tanks of chlorine, and he hasn’t seen the results of those tests yet.

Mr. Sawyer said that he doesn’t feel that Fire Emergency Response Guidelines will change as a result of these tests yet. But the Chlorine Institute Changed the guidelines in their Pamphlet 74 which reduced the levels of risk at distance tremendously. He thinks this is premature.

Mr. Sawyer said most facilities use EPA standards to do their risk assessments, but could use the standards established in Pamphlet 74, but his program would be uncomfortable with that.

After hearing Mr. Sawyer’s presentation the Commission felt there was enough interest in this topic to refer it to the Planning and Policy committee for further consideration.

**b) Consider recommendation from the Planning and Policy Committee to provide information about asbestos regulations to jurisdictions**

After consideration of the presentation by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District’s presentation at the March Commission meeting, the Planning and Policy committee recommended that the Commission write a letter to all the jurisdictions in the County encouraging them to provide the Air District’s requirements on asbestos management for construction sites to all applicants when they apply for permits. The Commission voted 7-0 to support this recommendation.

**9. Reports From Commissioners On Matters of Commission Interest: None**

**10. Plan Next Agenda:**

Nanotechnology presentation from California Department of Public Health.

**11. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.